



Attorney/Docket No. 31132.237
Customer No. 000027683

IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Ferguson, et al.

Serial No.: 10/799,178

Filed: March 12, 2004

For: Technique and Instrumentation for
Intervertebral Prosthesis Implantation Using
Independent Landmarks

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Group Art Unit: 3732
Confirmation No.: 8149
Examiner: Unknown

FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited reference is in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists.

The undersigned first became aware of the cited patents by their inclusion in the International Search Reports issued by the ISA/EP for the PCT counterpart of the present application. A copy of the search report is enclosed.

The above-identified application was filed after June 30, 2003. Therefore, pursuant to the waiver of the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) as stated in a Pre-OG Notice dated July 11, 2003, a copy of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449 are not attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie M. Nickols
Registration No. 50,826

Date: 9/23/05
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Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 9-23-05.

Gayle Conner
Printed Name

Signature

In place of PTO-1449 Form		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> SEP 27 2005 TRADEMARKS </div>		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number		10/799,178	
		Filing Date		March 12, 2004	
		Applicant(s)		Ferguson, et al.	
		Art Unit		3732	
		Examiner Name		Unknown	
SHEET 1 OF 1		Attorney Docket Number		31132.237	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date <small>MM-DD-YYYY</small>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	A1	5,108,395	04/28/1992	Laurain
	A2	2003/0055430	03/20/2003	Kim

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document <small>(Country Code - Number - Kind)</small>	Publication Date <small>MM-DD-YYYY</small>	Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <small>Y/N</small>

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published
	A3	Patent Cooperation Treaty - European Patent Office, "Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report and the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, or the Declaration," International Application No. PCT/US2005/007310, March 7, 2005, 10 pages

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.